VOLUME XXIII.

ACCOMAC C. H., VA., SATURDAY, MAY 7, 1904.

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Talmage Sermon

Frank De Witt Talmage. D.D.

Los Angeles, Cal., May 1.-On the Methodist general conference of 1904 and points out the rise and growth of Methodism and the secret of its far the bud of the field."

a deputation of Methodist ministers and laymen waited on him. They said: "Will you not preach for us at least once before you return to America? chief cause of the marvelous develop-There are thousands and tens of thou- ment of the Methodist church. sands of people in London who have for years been readers of your sermons, and they want to hear your voice and touch your hand. They have that they are making a fatal error a right to make this demand. You are part of them, and we cannot go until you consent to preach at least once." We were on our way to the continent to meet my mother and sisters, who had preceded us there some months bing before. "No," answered my father. foctors have told me I must hold up. I am going to the continent, where my lips will be closed, because I do not understand the French and the German languages. But if you wish, I will preach for you when I return." Where would you like to preach, doc-With that my father turned and said, "As I am to preach but once, I have but one desire, and that is to preach in John Wesley's pulpit."

"Why do you want to preach in City Road chapel?" I asked, after the delegation had departed. "That church holds only a few hundred. Why not go to one of the great buildings, like Joseph Parker's church or Exeter hall, where you can have an audience of thousands of hearers?" "Because," was the reply, "I consider that City Road chapel is in some respects the most sacred spot in all Europe. That is the place where John Wesley is buried. That is the pulpit from which went forth a mighty power which is felt in every land today. The influence of that pulpit is potent in every Methodist church and meeting house and Sunday school the world over, affecting the lives of twenty-five millions of the human race, who every Lord's day assemble under Methodist auspices to worship God and study his word. John Wesley built City Road chapel. He spent the latter part of his stationary ministry in City Road chapel, and

his presence is enshrined there." Wesley Everywhere Respected. Lord Macaulay, in one of his essays, eclares that John Wesley had a greater natural genius for government than had Richelieu. The great historian believed that in these words he was giv ing the eminent divine the highest praise, but I could see that my father's estimate far transcended that of Macaulay, and that he held Wesley in higher honor than that of any statesman, living or dead. The whole Christian world is in accord in that estimate, and as it recognizes the achievements of the church which John Wesley founded it thanks and praises God for that beneficent life.

The name of John Wesley is everywhere respected by the good and the true. Therefore is it to be wondered at that our people, no matter to what Protestant church they belonged, hailed with joyful acclaim the news that the Methodist general conference of 1904 was to assemble in the City of the Angels? This conference opens its session during the coming week. We, as a people, look forward to its sessions with interest and hope. We believe that by close touch this conference will bless all Protestant churches, no matter to what denomination they belong. It is appropriate on this Sabbath day to bid the incoming delegates welcome. It is also appropriate to state some of the reasons why the little band of followers with which John Wesley surrounded himself has grown in numbers until today it outnumbers in membership every other individual Protestant church in Amer

ica and in the world. First, her genesis. In order to study the marvelous multiplying power of Methodism let us analyze the conditions attendant upon her birth. We must find upon what troublous waters her cradle was rocked and search out the place of her infancy, even as the Egyptian princess found the future emancipator of the Hebrew race sleeping in a willow basket among the bulrushes of the river Nile. Every great cousness in a nation shall so stir the er in his name around the standard of some leader whom he raises up to witness for him

Stones, Monument, Iron Railing and all cemetery work in gen eral, and save money.

In marole of Poissed Grante, can now do so at a very small outlay as commons, "All these men have their commons, "All these men have their ple, homely language of the street can now do so at a very small outlay as commons, "All these men have their ple, homely language of the street can now do so at a very small outlay as commons, "All these men have their dient churches of old, which wonder that the churches of old, which wonder that the churches of old, which Strong has said, as a protest against young people will testify. an Established church, which believed

and Blackstone says that he went to have a death! May this system live on hear every preacher of note in London and on until at last earthly time shall and that there was not one whose discourse indicated whether he was a follower of Confucius or Mohammed or of Christ. The Established church of that time believed in carrying the phylacteries upon the forehead, but not in practicing Christ's spiritual lessons in the life. It was so given over to formalism and rites and coremonies that it had no warning to give even to men in its pulpits who, like the Pharisees of old, were whited sepulchers, occasion of the assembling of the fair to the eye, but within harboring decaying corpses and whose private the preacher welcomes the delegates lives were a repulsive stench. "It is the inward witness, son, the inward witness," spake the dying father, Samnel Wesley, to his son John-"this is reaching influence upon the religious the strongest proof of Christianity." world today. The text is Ezekiel XVI, So John Wesley and his followers res-7, "I have caused thee to multiply as olutely set their faces against the prevalent sins of that day. They vehe-Nearly twenty years ago I was with | mently declared that the Christian my father in a hotel in London when church should not only have a pure creed, but that its members should be men of pure private lives. In the high spiritual standard set before the individual church members we find the

> No Compromise With Sin. My brother, it is of vital importance

that all Protestant churches realize when they in any way compromise their high spiritual standards by alliance with sin. The higher the standard of the Christian church the great er will be its success. We do not need today churches that honor winebib ministers. We do not need churches which, when they have a I cannot at the present time. I am church sociable, tell their young peo mentally and physically worn out. The ple they may dance and play cards. We do not desire churches whose members in their everyday actions are nowis different from the people of the world. One of the reasons why the Christian Endeavor society, of which Francis E. Clark is the president, is numbering its members by the hundreds of thousands and the millions is because of its ironclad pledge. John Willis Baer, who for so many years was secretary of that young people's Christian or ganization, was right when in my presence some years ago he declared, "The high standard of the character of the Endeavorers is due to the high standard of the society's pledge." You can never raise a sin struck world if you are wallowing in the sinful mud of the world yourself. Like John Wesley and the Methodist church, lift the world out of sin by making your

Christian standard as high as heaven and as pure as Christ himself. "It is t's inward witness, son, the inward Itness this is the strongest proof of aristianity." It is the inward witess of the purity of its members hich accounts for the multiplying Lowers of the Methodist church of tolay. Methodism came into the world as a protest against prevalent sin.

This fact alone does not tell all the

story of its marvelous multiplying power. There are many other reasons for the growth of Methodism. One of the chief of these is the fact that John Wesley was the emancipator of the laymen, as Martin Luther was the emancipator of the Bible. The English ecclesiastic opened the dumb lips of the pew. The German refor the iron clasps holding together the lids of the word of God, which barred to all but ordained priests access to the life giving message that God sent for the deliverance of all his sinful children. John Wesley said to the blacksmith at his forge and the cobbler on his bench and the wife in her kitchen: "Go forth and be my evangel-You may not be graduates of ists. theological seminaries, but you can testify of Christ's love. Martin Luther said: "There, laymen, is the open Bible. Read it. Ponder it. Study it. Read it with your own eyes and kiss it with your own lips." Do you wande that when John Wesley built the Methodist church upon an open Bible and then in public meeting set all his people testifying of God's word and love he became one of the greatest gospel

reformers of the ages? Sneers For Wesley. John Wesley because he sent forth the common people preaching and praying everywhere was in derision called a "Methodist." He was sneered at because in his day custom dictated that no man should pray in public unless he read his prayer out of a printed prayer book or speak for Christ unless he was entitled to wear a cassock and bands of an ordained priest. But John Wesley removed these restrictions for the Methodists and sent the laymer forth preaching and praying, as in the latter years Archibald Tait, archbishop of Canterbury, enlisted the services of unordained workers in various branches of church activity and earned for himself the title given him in scorn by a jealous clergy of "the archbishop of the laity." There, upon his monument in old Canterbury, is chiseled in the most beautiful of epitaphs, "The one desire of his life was to make the Church of England the church of the people." Oh, my friends, let us hold fast this liberty of service. uct of the condition of the time of its not committed exclusively to any one laters who have been caged up to movement in history has been the prod- The work of propagating the gospel is birth. God in his providence has or- class or profession. The laborers sent preach their sermons behind their redained that the prevalence of unright- forth by Wesley in the eighteenth censouls of his people that they will gath- bishop Tait in the nineteenth, had a work to do, and right earnestly and successfully they did it. Let us never What were the conditions of the na- death. What we need more and more divine institution is that it has extion at the time of the birth of the in the beginning of this twentieth cen-Methodist church? Did she come into tury is not a better educated ministry, the sepulchral and awful hymns with the world as a protest to the sins of but one which will start forth a speak-

a corrupt English court? Oh, yes. In no time of English history have bribfact is some of our churches are being most part, were all gloom, all darkery and debauchery run more riot preached to death. We need not more than during Robert Walpole's occupan- classical sermons, but more and more and death. When one sang them he cy of the English premiership. He was the good old fashioned testimony meet | could almost feel the hot, hissing the author of the famous and hateful ings of the Methodist church. We stames of eternal punishment scorchin need men and women who in the simble lips. No such singing as the analysis of the Methodist church. won by foul. But Methodism came truly "people's meetings," in which into the world to do a greater work all take part, a place where the old sang for the most part the songs of than merely to protest against govern- folks will testify, and the middle aged death, should have worshipers who mental depravity. It came, as Josiah people will testify, and where the gave only half hearted voices to their

Another great cause for the multiplynies than in spiritual t uths. "Isaac system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." This "class system," so called, are songs of life and joy and hope. Go system." The life is the life and li Next Great Aw'ke' Ag." "calls the of February. 1742. Like the life of

church of this period 'a fair carcass,' " | the Wandering Jew, may it never cease and the struggles against sin shall be swallowed up in the eternal

conquests of heaven! This was how the famous "class system" of Methodism was born; John Wesley and his brother Charles were visiting their society in the city of Bristol. A large financial indebtedness hung as an incubus over that society's place of worship. While the members of that society were discussing with the leaders how they should lift the debt a Captain Foy arose and proposed that each member should be taxed one penny a week until the debt was paid. "But that is not fair," some one protestingly said. "Here are some people who are so poor they cannot af-ford to give even a penny." "Then," said Captain Foy, "put eleven of the poorest with me, and if they can give anything I will call upon them weekly and collect the same, and if they give nothing I will give for them as well as for myself, and each of you can call on eleven of your neighbors weekly, receive what they give and make up what is wanting." No sooner had Captain Foy spoken than in a flash a divine inspiration came to John Wesley. "Yes, yes," said the great leader to himself; "that is just what Methodism needs-a system of caring for its own, a system by which its members shall not be herded together as wild animals are herded together, but a system

which will single men out and place

them in circles of tens, and over these

circles shall be placed a separate lead-

er who will have charge of each class."

report to their pastors. Their pastors in turn today meet and report to their presiding elders. Each man by the "class system" of Methodism is responsible to some individual person of to the middle and lower chases. Are The "Class System." see the value of individual responsibility in the temporal world. Why should we not see the same results from the "class system" of Methodism? Your boy is about sixteen years of age. Where are you going to send the lad to college? "Well," you say, "I would like in many ways to send him to one of our great universities, but the trouble is I am afraid. There the boy will only be lost among a crowd of hundreds of other students, and no one will be individually responsible for the lad. I think I shall send him to one of our smaller colleges, where he will come in close contact with his teachers,

and these teachers will be able to keep their eye upon him." You send your boy to a small college to secure the individual touch of a professor upon the boy. "Think not," said President Harper only a short time ago, "that the University of Chicago is in any sense rival of the small college. There is a professor upon our faculty would be so foolish as to advoca idea that young boys of sixteen be turned loose in this great sinf with no one to be individually ,

sible for them. Chicago unive sity is distinctively a postgraduate institution. We have our collegiate department for the sons and daughters of those parents living in town, and not for those whose homes are in the far distance" Now, the "class system" of Methodism has a double purpose-first, it makes the Methodist convert a men ber of a great gospel university in which there are hundreds of thousands and millions of members and it gives to that convert the enthusiasm which truly comes from great numbers, and, secondly, it separates the Methodist convert from the masses. It places him in a gospel family for which some one is responsible. It gives to him a separate gospel garden in which to labor. It says: "Old convert, you look after that young man and that young woman. Visit them in their homes. See that they have the right kind of companionship. When they are absent from the house of God learn why they are absent and tell them that they are missed." Individual responsibilitie for individuals-that is the great multiplying slogan of the Methodist "class

system." For whom, O Christian man, are you responsible in Christ's name? The Methodist church, in the next place, is a singing church, whose songs are nearly always keyed to the tune of hope and joy and the glorious harmonies of a blessed hereafter. It is a church whose music is filled with halleluiah choruses and battle hymns and inspiring marching melodies. It is a church which believes that our thanks and gratitude for blessings received can be returned to God as well when standing upon our feet and, in the words of the psalmist, "singing unto the Lord," as when on bended knee we offer them in silent prayer in the closet. The trouble with many of our churches is they always imagine Christ as keeping step to the slow time of a dirge, but they cannot imagine his moving lips as joining in a wedding march or in the joys of a social

Webster's Tribute

Daniel Webster once said: "The proof to me that the church was established by God is found in the fact that it has existed in spite of the begowned minpellent pulpits. Any lawyer would be ruined if he were compelled to plead tury, like the laymen enlisted by Arch- for his client behind a wooden box, as the minister by custom is compelled to plead for his Christ." Whether that statement is true or not, I am not here allow the pew to again be shackled and to discuss, but one of the great facts its lips sealed with the silence of that convince me that the church is a isted for hundreds of years in spite of which the choirs used to lead in the ness, all breathing fire and brimstone We flames of eternal punishment scorching wonder that the churches of old, which But while the Methodist singing? church has its songs in the minor key, at that time more in out and ceremo- ing power of Methodism is the "class for the most part the Methodist songs

country and you will know of what speak. The mightiest shout ever rais ed by conquering host upon battlefield was never more triumphant than are the camp meeting songs of Desplaines or Ocean Grove. When the Methodists sing "We are marching to Zion" they sing it in such a way that it seems to fling wide open the gates of the heavenly city. Songs! Songs! Songs! Aye, the Methodist church is a singing church, but greatest of all it is a singing church of joy and hope. O men, no matter to what denomination we may belong, let us learn to sing as the Methodists sing! John Wesley's God was a Saviour. Let us sing as though Christ had indeed redeemed us from

Lastly, Methodism has had its marvelous and miraculous multiplying power because it has had an infinite field in which to labor. It has worked for the most part among the common people. Certain churches in this world have been known as churches of a class. Some churches have been known last is the making of a pattern for a as churches which appealed to the greatest amount of brains in almost every step the amateur workman every Christian community. Other John Wesley had as much brain as any in the wood itself. man of his generation, and though by political preferment he could have reached a position of influence in aristocratic society, yet he chose to cast his lot among the common people. He did not believe there was one gospel for the rich and another for the poor-one for the brainy man and another for him of small mental caliber. John These leaders in turn were to meet and Wesley believed all classes should meet as one at the throne of grace. There fore, as the common people crowded around him to receive his message, many of the rich and the affuent stay ed away. He was truly the missionary

> we in church work ready o reach out in Christ's name for the conversion of the same kind of people It was said of our Lord that "the common people heard him gladly." Ah, that is the best encomium that can be placed upon the tomb of the found-er of Methodism. When Peter Cartwright, many years ago, arose to preach in Tenhessee some one whis-pered to him "General Jackson is in your audience." With that Peter Cart-wright turned and said: "I hear that General Jackson is in this audience. But I want to say to General Jackson that I have no gospel for him any dif-ferent from that which I offer to every Then, in a voice of thunder, wright cried: "Except ye repent shall all likewise perish! General kson, that message is for you. Poor man, that message is for you." So, today, John Wesley in his old pulpit, like Peter Cartwright in vision, is stretching out his arms over the whole sinful world crying: "Repent! Repent! time he is iercy seat!

God bless all Methodists and Metho dism! Delegates to the general conferyou welcome. Aye, we open our hearts and greet you with 10,000 Christian salutations. May you always love us in the spirit with which we greet you on this Sabbath day. [Copyright, 1904, by Louis Klopsch.]

Shaw and the Bacon Theory Lecturing at Birmingham on Shake peare recently, Mr. George Bernard Shaw was severe on the friends of the Bacon theory. "If," he said, "you take the titles of Shakespeare's plays, just a sufficient number for the purpose and take the fourth letter from the end of the title, you will find that they spell 'Berhard Shaw.'" This seems curious, but a correspondent of a daily paper has found it to be a fact. Here are the cryptogrammic Shakespearean plays he sends as solution:

MacBeth.
Julius Ca Esar.
Comedy of Er Rors.
Merchant of VeNice.
Antony and CleopAtra.
Two Gentlemen of VeRona.
Merry Wives of WinDsor.
Trollus and CresSida.
Timon of Athens.
Antony and CleopAtra.
All's Well That Ends Well.
—London -London Globe. The Tomato.

The tomato has a curious history. After the revolution of Santo Domingo many rrench families came from there to Philadelphia, where they introduced their favorite "pomme d'amour." Although introduced from South America as early as 1596 into England, it was looked upon with suspicion and its specific name, lycopersicum, derived from lykos (wolf) and persikon (a peach), referring to the beautiful but deceptive appearance of its fruit, intimates pretty closely the kind of estimation in which it was held. It is now, however, almost universally used. A Cold In the Head.

A hydropathic treatment of a cold in the head is more reliable than any other. It is as follows: In the morning after rising and at night before retiring wash the feet and legs as high up as the knees in cold water, then rut them with a rough towel and massage them till the skin is red and glowing. In addition to this cautiously snuff tepld water up the nose frequently during the day and sip with a teaspoon a glassful as hot as can be borne an hour before each meal and at bedtime. A few days is often quite sufficient for simple cases and obstinate ones yield if the treatment is prolonged. No medicines are required. If taken in the first stages of the disease a cold is broken up which might otherwise become a severe case of bronchitis, lasting many days or

In an English school recently a cer-

weeks.-Chicago News.

tain boy was regularly absent during the hour in which Latin was taught The teacher called upon the boy's fa ther, at whose instructions it had been teacher was interested and asked what this subject might be. The father replied, "I am teaching my son how to shave without a looking glass."

UNIQUE CARPENTER SHOP

working and Pattern Making.

There is a unique carpenter shop in Boston, one where the workman pays for the privilege of working instead of being paid for his labor. Though it is a perfectly equipped woodworking shop, it is called a laboratory, for in it the students of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology learn to plane and saw and to become good, practical carpenters and pattern makers. And what is very surprising is that after comparatively few hours' instructionnever more than a week, all told, in the whole course of technical trainingthey turn out work of which the pro fessional who spends his life at the bench or lathe need not be ashamed.

The students start at the very bot tom-as is the case in the entire sys tem of the institute-and end by ac complishing things the average carpenter could never do. Their first "prob lem" is to saw a straight line, and the screw propeller, for example, and at learns the strictest economy of matechurches have been known as the rial, for a piece of wood spoiled is nevchurches of the aristocracy. But though er replaced unless there was a defect

The layman may ask, "What's the use of making a carpenter of a technical student?" many. None of these young men ever expects to take up carpentry as a life occupation, but all of them sooner or later will be called upon to supervise men who are woodworkers of some aind, and the best way to know just how a thing saund be done correctly is to be able to do it oneseir. sides the ordinary tools of the wood, worker's trade, the students are made familiar with all sorts of lathes and

saws and spend hours using them. The system employed at the institute in teaching these classes is simple and effective. A plan of the "problem" to be worked out is given each student; the students group themselves about the instructor, who illustrates the "problem" by doing it himself, and finally each individual receives the necessary material and sets about it himself. Among the models made are wheels with plane surfaces for power belts, wheels with cogs which fit cogs on other wheels, pump cylinders and pistons, curved joints for iron pipes and various other parts of modern machinery. On several occasions students have constructed the wooden patterns for entire engines.

"I don't seek your confidence enough, Matilda," said Mr. Mudley, who was experiencing one of his periodical spasms of reform. "Hereafter I want you to consult me about all your little troubles and affairs. I wish to take an interest in everything that interests you. Come to 'me with your doubts. Confide in me."

"Oh, Henry, how sweet of you!" exwished that we were nearer togethe -that I could consult you and lean

upon you, as it were." "Well, hereafter, always come to me." benignly enjoined Mr. Mudley, as he opened the evening paper. A few moments later Mrs. Mudley

ventured. "Henry, dear." "Yes, my love." "May I ask your opinion about some

"Why, certainly, my dear," said Mr. Mudley, sitting up straight and assuming a judicial cast of countenance.

'What is it, my love?" "Would you make this waist of maize peau de cygne, with the bertha of point d'esprit trimmed with ruches of taffeta, or would you have the yoke cut gules on the bias, with cuffs of cream venetian over white mouse

"I believe I'd have it the first way, Matilda," gasped Mr. Mudley, as he looked about for his hat. "Guess I'll go down to the club for awhile."-Philadelphia Bulletin.

Getting the News In Japan. In Japan story telling is an old and popular calling. The professional story tellers have their particular halls, where at the present moment hundreds congregate to listen to war news. True, the Japanese story teller does not attract the more refined or highly educated people, but so popular is he with the masses (who can seldom afford to attend the theater) that he may be classed among the most interesting of those who live to please and in-

struct The Japanese news narrators of the present time are among the most pop ular men of the cities in which they ply their strange vocation. These verbal war bulletins and vocal dispensers of information upon the great conflict now waging between Japan and Russia serve the masses after the fashion of the American newspaper "extras," and the smaller the community where they hold forth the greater is the importance of the professional purveyor of war intelligence and picturesque narrative.-Metropolitan.

An Instructive Sermon.

Bishop Potter was preaching one Sunday evening in a small town in the Adirondacks, where he has a summer camp, says the New York Times When the services were over a tall, gaunt man with the air of a backwoodsman came up to the bishop with outstretched hand. "I've heerd ye preach twice afore this," he said, "an' I like yer preachin'. I allus l'arn somethin' new from ye. I rid ten mile tonight to hear ye, an' I'd 'a' rid ten more, fer, as usual, I heerd somethin' new tonight that I never knowed afore." "Well, I'm glad of that," said the bishop, shaking the outstretched hand, "And what was it you learned tonight?" "Why, bishop, I found out fee the fust time in my life that Sodom and Gomorrah wuzn't twine."

Whooping Cough.

"In the spring of 1901 my children ad whooping cough," says Mrs. D. ther, at whose instructions it had been learned he remained away, and asked for an explanation. The father said: "It is all right. During the Latin hour I am teaching Jimmy something that he will find far more useful than Latin in his progress through life." The teacher was interested and asked the severity and frequency of the